

25533 and 25534—Continued.

The following seeds:

25533. PRITCHARDIA PACIFICA Seem. & Wendl.

A spineless fan palm, remarkable for its fibrous, fluffy leafstalks.

Distribution.—A native of the Fiji and the Samoa Islands.

25534. CARLUDOVICA sp.

25535 and 25536. BELOU MARMELOS (L.) W. F. Wight. Bael.

From India. Presented by Mr. A. Howard, Imperial Department of Agriculture, Pusa, Bengal. Received April 30, 1909.

Seed of each of the following:

25535. A variety from Madhaipore, near Dalsing Serai.

25536. A small variety from Dalsing Serai, Tirhoot, which is considered to have a good flavor.

See Nos. 22957 and 24450 for general descriptive notes.

Distribution.—A small tree, native of India, being found on dry hills from Jhelum to Assam and south to Travancor.

25537. MEDICAGO SATIVA L.**Alfalfa.**

From Mitchell, S. Dak. Presented by Prof. W. A. Wheeler. Received May 29, 1909.

Baltic. "Grown from S. D. No. 167. This strain, which was originally secured near Baltic, S. Dak., has proved extremely hardy and drought resistant; it possesses the same variegated flowers that are to be observed in the *Grimm* alfalfa and the commercial sand lucern." (*J. M. Westgate.*)

25538 to 25540. CUCUMIS MELO L.**Muskmelon.**

From Spain. Presented by J. Lapoulide & Co., Madrid, at the request of Hon. Maddin Summers, American vice-consul. Received May 20, 1909.

"Three varieties, as follows: From Añover, large and sweet. From Valencia, early and very productive. From Villaconejo, valuable for its keeping qualities." (*Lapoulide & Co.*)

"I frankly believe that the introduction of these muskmelons in the United States is a most important matter. The fact is I know of no plant that can equal this one in intrinsic value to the farmer. To say that a successful cultivation of it may mean millions is very little. It means hundreds of millions in time and will be a boon to our farmers entirely unexpected.

"It has been a mania of mine for years, but I have had difficulty in getting some one interested in the matter. In my humble opinion if we can introduce this product, my work as consul here will be well crowned, as the results will be incalculable.

"I do not know if you exactly appreciate the magnificence of this fruit. Our cantaloupes and other classes of melons are common as compared with a first-class Spanish 'melon.' During the month of January and February I had a large lot hanging in my cellars suspended by hemp coverings. Several very prominent New York club men, who were very particular about their menus and criticised the Hotel de la Paix and the Hotel de Paris for their food, dined with us. It appears that their great complaint came from the fact that in Spain, a country famous for its fruits, they could find nothing that warranted this 'fama.'